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REF ID: A6512

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP  
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Costa Rica

DATE: ✓ 25X1A6a

SUBJECT Political Trends in Costa Rica: Opinions of  
Pedro Loria Rivera  
25X1A6a

INFO: [REDACTED]

DIST. 23 March 1947

PAGES

SUPPLEMENT

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ORIGIN [REDACTED]

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The following opinions have been expressed by Pedro Loria Rivera in late February 1947 on the political situation in Costa Rica. Loria is a businessman in San Jose, an enthusiastic supporter of Otilio Ulate Blanco, and both anti-Communist and anti-Administration.

25X1X6 1. [REDACTED] any break between the Administration and the Communists, as represented by a break between the Partido Republicano Nacional and the Partido Vanguardia Popular, would be only for public consumption and not a reality. In the 1944 elections the Vanguardia was a very useful ally for the Partido Republicano Nacional inasmuch as the so-called Vanguardia shock troops were used to intimidate various citizens. Loria doubted that the Partido Vanguardia Popular was capable of raising as many as five thousand votes, but considered its size as no criterion in judging its strength, since it is by far the best organized of all the parties in Costa Rica.

2. In reply to questions about three bombs which had recently been discovered in various places - in the home of Manuel Mora, in the main artery of the water works, and on the Pacific Railroad tracks near Ciruelas - the responsibility for which has never been determined, nor does the Seguridad Publica seem greatly interested in pursuing the responsible culprits, Loria stated that these were merely Communist activities to provide the right unstable and restive state conducive to the growth of Communism. At the same time these outrages gave both the Vanguardia and the Administration an opportunity to intimidate various members of the Opposition, although this had not been done publicly.

3. According to Loria, one of the principal financial backers of the Partido Vanguardia Popular is Victor M. Quesada Carvajal. The latter has netted considerable financial gains from various new business enterprises he has entered as a result of favors from both the present Administration and the previous Administration of Calderon Guardia.

Document No. 009  
NO CHANGE in Class.

DECLASSIFIED

Class. CHANGED TO: TS S C

DDA Memo, 4 Apr 77  
Auth: DDA REC. 77/1463

Date: 10 APR 1978 By: 028  
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